7. Minister of Rural Development
8. Minister of Panchayati Raj
9. Minister of State for Food Processing
10. Minister of State for Science & Technology
11. Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission
12. Chairman, Economic Advisory Council
13. Chairman, National Commission on Farmers
14. Member (Agriculture), Planning Commission
15. Principal Secretary to PM **Convenor**

Secretaries of the Ministries/Departments concerned would be permanent invitees. The Chairman could invite any Minister/Officer depending upon the context.

The Committee may commission specialized studies depending upon the requirements, which arise from time to time and could engage in the following tasks:—

(a) Identify key areas that require fresh policy initiatives, particularly those of an inter-sectoral nature.

(b) Outline the follow-up action that needs to be taken to implement identified policy initiatives.

(c) Identify institutional mechanisms to implement policies and programmes.

(d) Monitor key policy initiatives.

(e) To oversee and coordinate the integrated implementation of those recommendations of the National Commission on Farmers that are accepted by the Government.

The Committee has not yet given its recommendations.

SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Sir, I have no questions to put. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

Price control on drugs

*346. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to ease control on pricing of drugs manufactured in India; and

(b) whether Government studied the position that would arise by relaxing the control on drugs prices after which the drugs will become costlier for the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) As per the present Pharma Pricing Policy, the 74 bulk drugs specified in the First Schedule of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95) and the formulations based thereon are under price control and their prices are fixed/revised by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in accordance with the provisions of the DPCO, 95.

Prices of non-Scheduled formulations are fixed by the manufacturers themselves keeping in view the various factors like cost of production, marketing/selling expenses, R&D expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation, product quality etc., The NPPA monitors the prices of medicines as per monthly Retail Audit Reports of ORG-IMS Research Pvt. Ltd. The Government takes corrective measures where the public interest is found to be adversely affected.

The Government announced the 'Pharmaceutical Policy 2002' in February 2002. However, a public interest litigation filed in the High Court of Karnataka at Bangalore resulted in an Order dated 12.11.2002 from Hon'ble High Court, which stopped the Government from implementing the price control regime envisaged in the Pharmaceutical Policy 2002. This Department filed a Special Leave Petition (SLP) before the Supreme Court of India against the Order of the Karnataka High Court, which has been admitted as SLP (C) No. 3668/2003. The Supreme Court *vide* its order dated 10.3.2003 directed the Government, *inter-alia*, that, "we suspend the operation of the order to the extent it directs that the Policy dated 15.2.2002 shall not be implemented. However we direct that the petitioner

shall consider and formulate appropriate criteria for ensuring essential and life saving drugs not to fall out of the price control and further directed to review drugs, which are essential and life saving in nature till 2nd May, 2003". Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has brought out the National List of Essential Medicines, 2003 after the review of the National Essential Drugs List, 1996. The matter is sub-judice before the Supreme Court.

The National Common Minimum Programme as adopted by the Government aims, *inter-alia*, to ensure availability of life saving drugs at reasonable prices. In the light of National Common Minimum Programme and the observations of the Supreme Court in SLP (C) No. 3668/2003, the Government constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (PI) to suggest measures for fulfilling the objectives of National Common Minimum Programme to ensure the availability of life saving drugs at reasonable prices. This Committee has submitted its interim report to the Government.

Subsequently, a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Dr. Pronab Sen, Principal Adviser, Planning Commission was constituted to explore options other than price control to make available life saving drugs at reasonable prices. During its meetings, the Task Force deliberated upon almost all the recommendations made in its interim Report by the Committee under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary. The Task Force has submitted its report to the Government on the 20th September, 2005. Some of the salient recommendations of Task Force regarding the price management are, that Price Controls should be imposed on the 'essentiality' of the drug and not on the basis of turnover and its should be applied only to formulations and not to bulk drugs to promote generic drugs, to establish price negotiation process for new patented drugs, to streamline the bulk procurement regime, to exempt the excise duty, customs duty and other levies on cancer and anti HIV/AIDS drugs, to reduce the excise duty on drugs from 16 to 8%, to enhance the exemption limit of SSI units from Rs. 1 crores to Rs. 5 crores etc.

A Core Group under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (PI) has been constituted by this Department to examine the recommendations of the Task Force and to draft a new Pharmaceutical Policy. The Government is also in consultation with various stakeholders is examining the recommendations of the Task Force. Based on this a new Pharmaceutical Policy

is likely to be announced shortly. The main objective of the Pharmaceutical Policy will be to ensure availability of the life saving drugs and essential drugs at reasonable prices.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, the hon. Minister has given a lengthy reply. In this, we find that one Committee has been appointed to control the prices of essential drugs. A task force was set up, and, thereafter, a core group was constituted. Sir, if we go through the reply, we will find that maximum bureaucrats were involved in the process of fixing the prices.

Sir, experts have not been involved in the process of fixing the prices of drugs. Actually, it is important because for drug formulations, essential drugs, and also for fixing the prices of essential drugs, we need the assistance of experts. The hon. Minister said that because the policy which was brought in 2002 was challenged in the court, a group has been formed. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any experts have been involved in the process of fixing the prices of drugs.

श्री राम विलास पासवान: सर, माननीय सदस्य ने प्रश्न किया है कि क्या सरकार कंट्रोल में ढील देने पर विचार कर रही है और यदि कंट्रोल में ढील देने पर विचार कर रही है तो क्या उस से दवाई महंगी होगी? सर, जैसा कि मालूम है दो तरह की दवाइयां हैं– एक दवाई कंट्रोल में है और दूसरी डिकंट्रोल है। सर, कंट्रोल में केवल 74 बल्क ड्रग्स हैं, बाकी 354 बल्क ड्रग्स essential drugs में आती हैं। उस परिस्थिति में कंट्रोल की बात होती है तो जितने भी हमारे मैनुफैक्चरर्स हैं, वे परेशान हो जाते हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में हम ने Joint Secretary श्री संधू की अध्यक्षता में एक कमेटी बनाई है जो काम कर रही है। उस कमेटी को हम ने काम दिया था कि आप existing drug price control order के तहत देखिए कि हम कौन-कौन सी दवाओं के दाम कैसे नियंत्रित कर सकते हैं? सर, हम ने अपने कॉमन मिनिमम प्रोग्राम में कहा है कि लोगों को उचित दाम पर दवा मिले। इस के लिए संधू कमेटी स्थापित की गयी जिस के बाद इंडस्ट्रीज में तहलका मच गया कि शायद ऐसा न हो कि हमारी दवाइयां कंट्रोल में चली जाएं। इसलिए उन्होंने ज्ञापन देने शुरू किए। प्राइम मिनिस्टर ने श्री प्रणब सेन, मुख्य सलाहकार प्लानिंग कमीशन की अध्यक्षता में एक टास्क फोर्स बनाया और उसे कहा कि आप देखिए कि othan than control क्या mechanism हो सकता है? इन दोनों ने अपनी रिपोर्ट Submit/examine कर दी हैं और डिपार्टमेंट उन्हें mechanism कर रहा है। सर, इस में एक्सपर्ट्स की टीम जो इंडस्ट्रीज की है, वह इस के साथ associate की गयी है जिसमें आई॰पी॰ए॰ है, आई॰डी॰एम॰ए॰ है और ओ॰पी॰पी॰ है। ये मेजर associations हैं।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, my paramount question was about the involvement of the experts in the Committee, but the hon. Minister was talking about the IDPL only. He has not answered my first supplementary.

Sir, seventy-four ingredients have been identified for controlling the prices of drugs. Secondly, Sir, there are 354 essential medicines. According to the Core Group study and the Task Force, etc., there is going to be a margin of profit for the manufacturers to the tune of 50-150 per cent, irrespective of whatever recommendations they submit. Therefore, while fixing the prices of essential drugs or the scheduled drugs, will the Minister ensure that the margin of profit would be minimum? I want a categorical reply from him. Sir, India is considered to be one country where the drug prices are at a certain level. Therefore, I would like the Minister to give an assurance to the House that in the essential drugs, the margin of profits would be minimum, not more than the price fixed for the manufacturers. A minimum profit should be there. For essential drugs, the profit should not be 50 per cent to 150 per cent.

श्री राम विलास पासवान: सर, मैं ने पहले ही कहा है कि इंडस्ट्रीज से एक्सपर्ट हैं। उस में ओ॰पी॰पी॰आई॰ हैं, आई॰पी॰ए॰ हैं, आई॰ओ॰पी॰एल॰ हैं तथा expert from hospitals में "एम्स" है, राजीव गांधी हास्पीटल है, एन॰जी॰ओज॰ की तरफ से कैंसर एंड सोसायटीज हैं और फार्म्युस्यूटीकल्स की तरफ से पी॰एस॰यूज॰ हैं। इस तरह इस में हर क्षेत्र के लोगों को रखा गया है।

दूसरी बात सर, जहां तक कॉस्ट ऑफ प्रोडक्शन का सवाल है, मैंने पिछली बार भी बतलाया था कि हमारे यहां प्रति वर्ष 44 हजार करोड़ का टर्न ओवर होता है। इसमें हमारे पी॰एस॰यू॰ का उत्पादन केवल 250 करोड़ का है, हमारा घरेलू उत्पादन 28 हजार करोड़ का होता है और प्रति वर्ष 16,700 करोड़ का निर्यात होता है। इस परिस्थिति में आप देखेंगे कि टोटल दवाईयां डी-कंट्रोल में हैं। हमें अभी तक जो जानकारी मिली है, उसके अनुसार कॉस्ट ऑफ प्रोडक्शन सिर्फ उन दवाइयों को मिलती है, जो शैडयूल में हैं, कंट्रोल में हैं। जब यह मामला सुप्रीम कोर्ट में गया तो सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने यह वर्डिक्ट दिया कि दवाईयां, जो एसेन्शियल ड्रग्स हैं, उनको कंट्रोल से बाहर नहीं रखा जाए। लेकिन तब तक उन एसेन्शियल ड्रग्स का पता नहीं था। उसके बाद डिपार्टमेंट ने सुप्रीम कोर्ट के इस वर्डिक्ट के आधार पर हैल्थ मिनिस्ट्री से बात की और हैल्थ मिनिस्ट्री ने ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: There have been several judgements by the court.

श्री राम विलास पासवान: वही तो मैं कह रहा हूं ...(व्यवधान)... हेल्थ मिनिस्ट्री ने 354 एसेन्शियल ड्रग्स की सूची बनाकर भेजी। हम लोगों ने उसे सुप्रीम कोर्ट के पास भेज दिया।

एक दूसरा मामला लाईफ सेविंग ड्रग्स का था। उसके संबंध में हम लोगों ने हैल्थ मिनिस्ट्री से बात की कि वे कौन-कौन सी दवाइयां हैं, जो जीवन-रक्षक दवाइयां हैं? जैसा पूरे देश में और विश्व में हर दवा को वे समझते हैं, हर बीमारी को वे समझते हैं कि यह जानलेवा बीमारी है। इसलिए उन्होंने

कहा है कि ऐसा कोई क्राइटेरिया नहीं है। यदि खांसी का इलाज या सर्दी का भी इलाज ठीक से नहीं करवाया जाए, तो वह भी जानलेवा बीमारी हो सकती है। इस प्रकार जो एसेन्शियल ड्रग्स हैं उनको प्राईस कंट्रोल के अंतर्गत कैसे लाया जाए, इसके लिए कमेटी विचार कर रही है और जैसा कि मैंने कहा कि कमेटी ने जो दो रिपोर्ट आलरेडी दी हैं, उसको हम एग्जामिन कर रहे हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Samadani.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, as per the recommendations, profitability will be 50 to 150 per cent for the drug manufacturer. I want an assurance from the hon. Minister to keep the profit at a low. That part has not been answered. Why should we put a question in this House? We should get a reply from the hon. Minister. That is the question I had put. The hon. Minister has given all the details in the reply.

श्री सभापति: बस ठीक है। ...(व्यवधान)... इन्होंने जवाब दे दिया, आपने सुना नहीं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राम विलास पासवान: सर, मैंने कहा कि सरकार की पॉलिसी है कि लोगों को उचित दाम पर, एफोर्डेबल प्राइस पर दवाइयां मिलें। लेकिन मैंने कहा कि जहां तक सारी दवाइयों के कॉस्ट ऑफ प्रोडक्शन का सवाल है, हम उनका कॉस्ट ऑफ प्रोडक्शन नहीं निकाल सकते। हम उन्हीं दवाइयों का कॉस्ट ऑफ प्रोडक्शन निकालते हैं, जो अंडर कंट्रोल रहती हैं और जो एसेंशियल ड्रग्स हैं, उनका कॉस्ट ऑफ प्रोडक्शन हम जानने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: ठीक है, हो गया जवाब। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राम विलास पासवान: लेकिन, जैसा कि मैंने कहा कि हमारे यहां 60 हजार दवाईयां हैं, फॉर्मूलेशन्स हैं। 60 हजार दवाइयों का कॉस्ट ऑफ प्रोडक्शन निकालना संभव नहीं है। बहुत सारी एक्साईज़ ड्यूटी से मुक्त हैं और बहुत सारी एस॰एस॰आई॰ में हैं। इसलिए हम प्रयास तो बहुत कर रहे हैं, लेकिन हम उस प्रयास में सफल नहीं हो रहे हैं और यह संभव नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, I am talking about essential drugs...(*interruption*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Narayanasamy, please, take your seat. Now, I would allow...(*Interruption*)...Mr. Samadani.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, according to the Supreme Court's verdict, all the essential drugs would come under control. The Government is trying to find out the cost of productions. There will be control, but what

type of control that would be, will depend upon the recommendations of the expert committee.

SHRI M.P. ABDUSSAMAD SAMADANI: Sir, there is a very great necessity to put a strict control over the drug market. Authentic reports say that most of the medicines that are made available in the market are not actually needed for patients in this country. Many of these medicines are with harmful side-effects. Some of these medicines have been banned in the foreign countries. Those banned medicines are very much available in our markets.

Therefore, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is going to take strong action with regard to the redressal of this state of affairs.

श्री राम विलास पासवान: सर, हमारा जो रसायन मंत्रालय है, कैमिकल्स डिपार्टमेंट है, हम दाम से संबंधित मामले डील करते हैं। कौन दवाइयां नकली हैं, कौन दवा हैल्थ के लिए सही है, यह हैल्थ मिनिस्ट्री डील करती है। हैल्थ मिनिस्ट्री समय समय पर उन दवाइयों को बैन भी करती है, जो हैल्थ के लिए हानिकारक होती हैं।

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAZMA HEPTULLAH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to ask the hon. Minister, in the light of the ongoing conference of the WTO in Hong Kong, what effect will be there on the Indian drugs when the entire recommendations are going to be implemented?

श्री राम विलास पासवान: सभापति जी, माननीय सदस्या ने शायद संभवत: पेटेंट एक्ट के संबंध में पूछा है कि उसका प्रभाव दवाइयों के ऊपर क्या पड़ने वाला है, मैं इस संबंध में बतलाना चाहूंगा कि सौभाग्य से जितनी भी हमारी 354 असेन्सियल ड्रग्स हैं, उनमें से एक भी पेटेंट के अंतर्गत नहीं आती है। इसलिए इसमें कोई चिंता की बात नहीं है। वैसे भी पांच से सात परसेंट दवाइयां ही पेटेंट के अंतर्गत रहती हैं। हमने इसके लिए बहुत सारे विकल्प भी तलाश किए हैं। इसके लिए कंपलसरी लाइसेंस की व्यवस्था है, पैरालल इम्पोर्ट की व्यवस्था है। इसके अलावा हमने यह भी कहा है कि जब तक उनकी इंडस्ट्रीज न लगें, जब तक निगोशिएसन्स पूरे न हो जाएं, तब तक हम अपनी इंडस्ट्रीज को बंद नहीं होने देंगे, जैसे ग्लाइबेक है, ग्लाइबेक कैन्सर की दवाई है। कैन्सर की दवा की जो प्राइस है, वह 1 लाख 12 हजार रुपए में आती है, जबकि हमारे यहां उसका प्रोडक्शन जो होता है, वह प्रोडक्शन 10 हजार का होता है। उनको कंपलसरी लाइसेंस दे दिया गया था और उसमें हमने कहा है कि हम इसको बंद नहीं होने देंगे और मामला कोर्ट में है। हमने हर संभव कोशिश की है कि पहले प्री-ग्रांट पेजिशन थी, अब हमने प्री-ग्रांट और पोस्ट-ग्रांट पोजिशन, दोनों कर दिया है। हर संभव प्रयास किया गया है कि जो पेटेंट का दुष्प्रभाव है, वह न पड़े और हमारी इंडस्ट्रीज मजबूत रहें। पेटेंट

लॉ लागू होने के बावजूद भी, थोड़े समय के लिए कुछ असर हो सकता है, लेकिन लॉंग टर्म में हमको फायदा होगा।

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: The hon. Minister has stated that none of the essential drugs or life saving drugs is covered by the patent regime. I think, the hon. Minister is not well-informed. There are many drugs the availability of which and the prices of which are directly infected by the patent legislation. My question for the hon. Minister is: Will the hon. Minister kindly inform the House what has been the effect of the new patent law on the pricing and the availability of life saving drugs? The latest case in point is the Avion Flu and we are told that we have no drugs for such diseases for the simple reason that these are under patent and we have not worked the compulsory licensing regime under the new patent law.

श्री राम विलास पासवान: सभापति जी, जैसा कि मैंने बतलाया कि मैं कोई डॉक्टर तो हूं नहीं, यह डिपार्टमेंट मेरे अधीन है। जैसा मुझे बताया गया, जो हमारे पास असेन्सियल ड्रग्स हैं, उसमें कोई भी पेटेंट के अंतर्गत नहीं आती है। माननीय सदस्य ने जो इस तरह का सवाल उठाया है, तो मैं इसको जरूर चेक करूंगा और इनको इस संबंध में लिखूंगा भी। जहां तक लाइफ सेविंग ड्रग्स का सवाल है, इन ड्रग्स मे कौन सी लाइफ सेविगं ड्रग्स हैं, उनके संबंध में हम हैल्थ मिनिस्ट्री के साथ बैठकर के तय करने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं। सर, मैंने अभी तक बतलाया कि असेन्सियल ड्रग्स की लिस्ट तो मेरे पास है, लेकिन लाइफ सेविंग ड्रग्स का देख रहे हैं।

श्री सभापति: ठीक है, ठीक है।

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Sir, I hope the hon. Minister is aware that there is a certain series of mergers and acquisitions of drug firms that is going on in India also. In this process, sometimes, they stop the production of certain drugs or medicines because they think that the price is not giving that high profit as expected. Later on, they introduce it with a new name. So, in this connection, may I know from the hon. Minister whether he keeps a close watch on these acquisitions and mergers, and also whether they continue the production or not? Please see that they continue the production of medicines, which are not available in the market. It is my personal experience and they said, we are not producing this medicine now. So, this is a serious matter and I want the hon. Minister to please assure the House that he will look into this matter also.

श्री राम विलास पासवान: सभापति जी, इस संबंध में प्रणब सेन कमेटी ने भी सिफारिश की है और निश्चित रूप से हम इसको देख रहे हैं।

डा॰ कुमकुम राय: सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहती हूं कि बहुत सारी ऐसी दवाइयां हैं, जिनमें हण्ड्रैड परसेंट तक प्रोफिट रहता है, तो उन दवाइयों की कीमत का निर्धारण करने का मापदंड क्या है? और, उस मापदंड के आधार पर जो दवाइयां बाजार में आती हैं, उन पर कौन-कौन सी बातें लागू होती हैं?

श्री राम विलास पासवान: सभापति जी, जैसा कि आपको मालूम है, मैंने ही इस बात को यहां डिस्कलोज किया था कि बहुत सारी ऐसी दवाइयां हैं, जिन दवाइयों की कीमत इस तरह है, हालांकि उनका परसंटेज मार्केट शेयर में 007 परसेंट है। जहां तक उन दवाइयों की कोस्ट ऑफ प्रोडक्शन का है, तो कोस्ट ऑफ प्रोडक्शन तो हमको मालूम नहीं है, लेकिन उनमें कुछेक दवाइयां ऐसी हैं, जिनकी कोस्ट ऑफ प्रोडक्शन शायद 50 पैसा होगी, मगर वह रिटेलर को 1 रुपए 20 पैसे मे देते हैं और उस पर एमआरपी 37/- रुपए का लगा रहता है। तो ऐसी जो दवाइयां हैं, उनको बंद किया जाए या कंट्रोल किया जाए, इसके ऊपर हमने एक्शन शुरू कर दिया है। दवाइयों के दाम कम हुए हैं – 97 परसेंट दवाइयां हैं, जिनका दाम पिछले 2 साल में बढ़ा नहीं है और करीब एक परसेंट दवाई है, जिसका दाम कम हुआ है और दो परसेंट दवाइयां हैं, जिनका दाम थोड़ा बढ़ा है। हम इंडस्ट्री से लगातार बातचीत में लगे हुए हैं, लेकिन आप जानते हैं कि जो फारमास्युटिकल इंडस्ट्री है, इनका अर्न ओवर भी बहुत है और लॉबी भी बहुत बड़ी है और जब भी उन पर थोड़ा कंट्रोल लगाने का कोई मामला आता है तो हाय-तौबा मच जाती है, वे धमकी देने लगते हैं कि हम दवाई का उत्पादन बंद कर देंगे। इसलिए प्रणब सेन कमेटी का मेन परपज है कि अदर देन कंट्रोल, इसका और क्या मेकेनिज्म हो सकता है। मैं समझता हूं कि उन्होंने जो रिपोर्ट दी है, वह काफी कारगर है और हमारे जवाइंट सैक्रेटरी की जो रिपोर्ट हैं, वह भी काफी कारगर है। तो इन दोनों रिपोर्ट्स को लेकर ऐफॉरडेबल रेट पर दवाइयां उपलब्ध हों, इसके लिए हम हैं और गरीबी की रेखा से नीचे रहने वाले लोगों के लिए फ्री में मुफ्त में कैसे दवाई की व्यवस्था की जाए, इस पर भी हम विचार कर रहे हैं।

National Steel Policy

*347. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:†
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to form a Group of Ministers to finalize an action plan and monitor implementation of much awaited National Steel Policy;

(b) whether Government have announced the steel policy;

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Jesudasu Seelam.

(c) if so, the details of the same; and

(d) whether this policy has been fully approved by the Group of Ministers?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) It has been envisaged in the National Steel Policy (NSP) that a suitable executing mechanism will be evolved to monitor the implementation of the NSP.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The salient features of the National Steel Policy are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(d) Does not arise in view of the (a) above.

Statement

The salient features of the National Steel Policy

- The NSP sets out a broad roadmap for the Indian Steel Industry in its journey towards reform, restructing adn globalization.
- The long-term goal of the NSP is that India should have a modern and efficient steel industry of world standards, catering to diversified steel damand. The focus of the policy is to achieve global competitiveness not only in terms of cost, quality and product-mix but also in terms of global benchmarks of efficiency and productivity. This will require indegenous production of 110 million tonnes per annum by 2019-20 from the 2004-05 level of 38 million tonnes. This implies a compounded annual growth of 7.3 percent per annum.
- In order to achieve the goal of 110 million tonnes of steel production by 2019-20, the country would require 190 million tonnes of iron ore and 70 million tonnes of coking coal. The NSP seeks to remove the supply-side constraints to the growth of this industry in an open, globally integrated and competitive enviornment.
- The NSP seeks adopt a multi-pronged strategy to move towards the long-term policy goal. On the demand side, the strategy would be to create incremental demand through promotional efforts, creation of awareness and strengthening the delivery chain, particularly in rural areas. On the supply side, the strategy would be to facilitate

creation of additional capacity, remove procedural and policy bottlenecks in the availability of inputs such as iron ore and coal, make higher investments in R&D and encourage the creation of infrastructure such as roads, railways, and ports.

- The NSP targets a per capita consumption level of about 165kg. In urban areas and 4kg. in rural areas by 2019-20 as compared to 77kg. and 2 kg., respectively in 2004-05. The industry will be encouraged to set up new block level rural stock points in order to boost steel consumption. Measures will be taken to incorporate steel structures in the CPWD code for goverment buildings and to include steel usage in the curricula for technical institutes.
- In order to achieve the strategic goal of 110 million tonnes of steel production by 2019-20, the industry would need additional capital Rs. 2,30,000 crores. In addition, funds would be required for technological upgrade of existing facilities.
- In order to mobilize such vast resources NSP seeks to encourage foreign direct investment. In addition the policy also seeks to devise suitable fiscal incentives for the steel industry.
- The NSP seeks to support development of risk-hedging instruments like futures and derivatives to contain price volatility in the steel market.
- The NSP seeks to strengthen the existing training and research facilities available to the domestic steel industry so as to provide suitable training programmes especially for the secondry small-scale units and also to collect and analyze data on important parameters of the industry.
- The NSP seeks to mount aggressive R&D efforts to create manufacturing capability for special types of steel, substitute coking coal, use iron ore fines, develop new products suited to rural needs, enhance material and energy efficiency, utilize waste, and arrest environmental degradation.
- The NSP acknowledges the important role played by the secondary steel sector in providing employment, meeting local demand of steel in rural and semi-urban areas, and meeting the country's demand of some special products and seeks to endeavour to provide the

necessary feedstock to these units at reasonable prices from major plants through the existing mechanism of State Small Industries Corporations.

The NSP recognizes the fact that integration of the Indian steel industry with the global economy requires that the industry should be protected from unfair trade practices, which become common especially during periods of downturn. The NSP therefore, envisages institution of mechanisms for important surveillance, and monitoring export subsidies in other countries.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Sir, the hon. Minister has given a detailed version indicating the salient features of the National Steel Policy. Sir, I would like to draw the kind attention of the hon. Minister to the point no. 3 of the salient features in the reply given by him. It states, "In order to achieve the goal of 110 million tonnes of steel production by 2020, the country would require 190 million tonnes of iron ore and 70 million tonnes of coking coal."

Sir, it is well known that for production of one million tonne of steel, you require four million tonnes of raw material. For that, Sir, you have to improve the infrasturcture in the Railways, infrasturcture of Roads, etc., for better movement. Will the hon. Minister explain to the House as to whether it is concomitant with the policy? And, by 2020, what are the outlays that the are providing to the Railways? What are the outlays they are providing for Roadways so that the raw material is available? And, what are the measures taken by the Ministry of Mines to make the ore available? These are all connected issues. Is it a fact that these issues have gone into, and, then the Steel policy hs been announced because unless you provide sufficient outlays in the respective sectors, it will be simply a planning and we may not be able to achieve the targets? Sir, would the hon. Minister like to throw some light on this issue.

श्री राम विलास पासवान: सभापति जी, दो चीजें हैं। एक तो इन्होंने सवाल उठाया है इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर का और उसमें पहला सवाल है कि हमारे पास रॉ-मेटिरियल क्या है। जहां तक उत्पादन का सवाल है, अभी तक 38 मिलियन टन हमारा उत्पादन हो रहा है और उस 38 मिलियन टन को बढ़ाकर 2019-20 तक 110 मिलियन टन तक ले जाने का हमारा लक्ष्य है। ऐसी परिस्थिति में रॉ-मेटीरियल की आवश्यकता होगी। हमारे यहां दो तरह के रॉ-मेटीरियल होते हैं, जिनमें एक रॉ-मेटीरियल आयरन ओर है आयरन ओर की हमारे पास कमी नहीं है, आयरन ओर का 23 बिलियन टन का

हमारे पास भंडार है, करीब 200 साल तक हमें उसकी कमी नहीं पड़ेगी; अलग-अलग माइंस हैं, तीन-चार राज्यों में इसकी बहुत जबर्दस्त खाने हैं। जहां तक कोकिंग कोल का सवाल है कोकिंग कोल हमारे पास ऐवेलेबल नहीं है, अधिकांश कोकिंग कोल हमको विदेश से इम्पोर्ट करना पड़ता है और इसलिए हमने अपने PSUs को भी कहा है, कल भी बैठक हुई है, जिसमें हमने निर्देश दिया है कि बाहर ज्वांइट वेंचर करो, जिसमें कि एक पारदर्शिता भी रहे और जितना भी कोकिंग कोल खरीदा जाए, वह ओपन टेंडर के द्वारा खरीदा जाए, किसी नेगोसिएशन के द्वारा नहीं खरीदा जाए। एक तो यह है। दूसरा प्रश्न आपने इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर के संबंध में पूछा है, उसके लिए मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि हमारी जो न्यू स्टील पॉलिसी है, उसके दो लक्ष्य हैं। पहला लक्ष्य यह है कि हमारी स्टील इंडस्ट्री वर्ल्ड क्लास की बने जो ग्लोबली कॉम्पिटीटिव हो साथ ही कॉस्ट एंड क्वालिटी के स्तर पर भी वह कॉम्पिटीशन में भी आए। इसके दो पहलू हैं, एक पहलू डिमांड का है और दूसरा सप्लाई का है। जो डिमांड की साइड है, उसमें हम देखते हैं कि जो हमारे वितरण का नेटवर्क है, वह अभी सही नहीं है। हालांकि हमारे पास कुछ जगह पर स्टॉक याड्र्स हैं, प्राइवेट में भी ऐसा ही है, इसलिए हमारे सामने सवाल यह रहता है कि हमारे देश में लोगों को स्टील की जितनी आवयकता है, उसे चाह कर भी हम पूरा नहीं कर पाते। यदि गांव के अन्दर कोई आदमी चाहे कि वह स्टील खरीदे, तो उसके पास इसका अभाव रहता है, वह उसे प्राप्त नहीं कर पाता है। इसका नतीजा यह होता है कि कोई लकड़ी का मकान बनाता, कोई किसी और चीज़ का बनाता है। इसके लिए हमारा एक लक्ष्य जागरूकता पैदा करना है और दूसरा डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन के नेटवर्क को ठीक करना। ये दो हमारे यह लक्ष्य हैं। जहां तक सप्लाई का सवाल है, उसमें जैसा कि हमने बताया ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: आपके विभाग में कभी डिबेट तो होती होगी?

श्री राम विलास पासवान: सर, इन्होंने अब पांच सवाल पूछ लिए हैं ...(व्यवधान)... एक ही साथ इन्होंने पांच सवाल पूछ लिए। हमारा उत्पादन बढ़े, खनन की उपलब्धता हो, इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर मज़बूत हो, रिसर्च को बढ़ावा मिले, इन सभी चीजों को हमने इस पॉलिसी के अन्दर शामिल किया है।

श्री दीपांकर मुखर्जी: एक ही सप्लीमेंटरी में आपने छ: सप्लीमेंटरीज़ कर दी हैं।

(श्री उपसभापति पीठासीन हुए)

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Sir, I am discussing the policy issue. Sir, my second supplementary is regarding pricing and availability of steel for small and marginal contractors who build housing societies. There are lots of variations in the steel prices in recent days giving rise to a lot of leakages in the system.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, put the question.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: would the hon. Minister tell me what are the measures that the Ministry has taken to achieve price stabilisation? Is there any scheme in the Ministry of Steel for giving small agencies in the Steel Sector to encourage educated and unemployed youth belonging to the weaker sections of society?

श्री राम विलास पासवान: महोदय, जहां तक हमारी स्टील एजेंसी का सवाल है, उसके लिए हमने फर्टीलाइज़र और स्टील मिनिस्ट्री में यह बता दिया है कि हम 25 प्रतिशत अनुसूचित जाति एवं जनजाति के बेरोजगार युवकों के लिए देंगे और जो अन्य लोग हैं, शेष हम उन्हें देंगे। इसलिए मैंने कहा कि हमारा जो नेटवर्क है, उस डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन नेटवर्क को हम मजबूत कर रहे हैं और उसके लिए हम डिस्ट्रिक्ट को यूनिट बनाएंगे, उसके पश्चात् हम ब्लॉक को यूनिट बनाएंगे। अभी पूरे देश में कुल मिला कर पब्लिक अंडरटेकिंग में 29 जगहों पर स्टॉक याड्र्स की एजेंसीज़ हैं, लेकिन उससे भी कुछ होने वाला नहीं है। जैसा कि माननीय सदस्य ने कहा, उसके ऊपर हम ऑलरेडी कार्यवाही कर रहे हैं।

जहां तक स्मॉल स्केल इंडस्ट्रीज़ का सवाल है, हमारी नीति उसे बढ़ावा देने की है और दूसरा जो प्राइसिंग का सवाल है, मुझे इस बात की खुशी है, क्योंकि एक समय ऐसा भी आ गया था जब हमारा स्टील उद्योग बिकने के कगार पर था, बंद होने के कगार पर था। पिछले दो वर्ष से इसमें काफी मुनाफा हो रहा है और प्रोडक्शन भी बढ़ रहा है और करीब-करीब 6700 करोड़ रुपये का फायदा हुआ है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया: आपने एफीशिएंसी के बारे में ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राम विलास पासवान: जी हां एफीशिएंसी भी बढ़ी है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: वे बताएंगे, बताएंगे। आप बाद में सवाल पूछ लीजिएगा। संतोष जी, आप बाद में सवाल पूछ लीजिएगा, अभी मंत्री जी को बोलने दीजिए।

श्री राम विलास पासवान: यह बात सही है कि जो प्राइस कंट्रोल होता है, वह हम नहीं करते हैं, वह इंटरनेशनल मार्किट में कंट्रोल होता है, लेकिन यह बात भी सही है कि हमारा प्रोडक्शन बढ़ा है, हमारी एफीशिएंसी बढ़ी है। जितनी भी पब्लिक अंडरटेकिंग्स हैं, उनमें जागरूकता आई है। पहले पब्लिक अंडरटेकिंग्स के इम्प्लॉएज़ समझते थे कि हम केवल वहां जा कर नौकरी कर लें, लेकिन अब उनके ऊपर यह जवाबदेही आ गई है कि यदि इंडस्ट्री घाटे में चलेगी तो उसका लॉस उन्हें भी उठाना पड़ेगा। मैं यह भी बता देना चाहता हूं कि इसके लिए हमारे जो पब्लिक अंडरटेकिंग्स में काम करने वाले कर्मचारी हैं, उन्हें मैं धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूं कि उनमें जागरूकता आई है और वे ईमानदारी और लगन के साथ काम कर रहे हैं और आज यह उसी का प्रतिफल है कि 6700 करोड़

का मुनाफा सेल को हुआ है एवं 2000 करोड़ से अधिक मुनाफा आरआईएल को हुआ है, जिसमें ये दोनों ही चीजें शामिल हैं।

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, the hon. Minister says that we have got iron ore storage in four States and plenty of it is available. And there is no problem. We need 190 million tonnes of iron ore to achieve the 100 million tonne production of steel by 2019. There is a strong feeling in the steel industry that if we keep on exporting all over the world irrespective of the quantum of availability and control, we might consume all the available iron ore. Would we not land into trouble one day when there won't be iron ore for our own steel industry? I would like to know from the Minister; What mechanism you have got to control it? What are the mining potentialities in the four States? And what is the quantum they are exporting? Where do we stand now at this stage if this speed of the export goes on? And tommorrow....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please put the question?

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, all these are my questions. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is such a long question.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: How are we going to satisy the House and the people of India?

श्री राम विलास पासवान: सर, जैसा कि मैंने शुरू में कहा था कि हमारे यहां आयरन ओर का रिजर्व 23 बिलियन टन है और हमने हिसाब लगाया है कि 2019-2020 में 190 मिलियन टन की आवश्यकता होगी Out of 23 billion tonnes, we will require 190 million tonnes, और कोकिंग कोल का 17 मिलियन टन का होगा, जैसा कि मैंने कहा कि कोकिंग कोल का अधिकांश हिस्सा इंपोर्ट किया जाता है लेकिन जहां तक आयरन का सवाल है, वह हमारे पास में पर्याप्त है।

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Sir, as the Minister says, 110 million tonnes of steel production is the goal for 2019-20 मंत्री महोदय को क्या मालूम है कि ऐसी हालत में भी जबकि अभी 38 मिलियन टन है, बंगाल में स्टील प्लांट का जो प्रोपोजल है, वह मैटीरियलाइज नहीं हो पा रहा है, क्योंकि आयरन ओर का लिंकेज नहीं मिल रहा है, पास के स्टेट से। ऐसा कहा जा रहा है कि जो आयरन ओर जिस स्टेट में रहेगा वहीं कंवर्सन के लिए स्टील बनेगा, उसी के लिए जो स्टील प्लांट बंगाल में बनने वाला था to fulfil one of the targets, वह स्टील

प्लांट बनाना बन्द करना पड़ा , क्योंकि आयरन ओर जा रहा है, एक ही स्टेट के लिए। ऐसी स्थिति में क्या आपने झारखंड सरकार से बात की है स्टील प्रोडक्शन के बारे में, कोई खास बात चल रही है, नहीं तो कभी ऐसा नहीं होगा कि पूरे का पूरा 110 मिलियन टन खाली 4 स्टेट में ही जाएगा, जहां आयरन होगा, ऐसा हो ही नहीं सकता। There cannot be any possibility where all the steel plants have to be located in those four States. Under the Circumstances. What intervention Government has done to see that the steel plant envisaged in the State of West Bengal materialises?

श्री राम विलास पासवान: सर, जैसा कि मैंने कहा कि हमारे पास में रिजर्व तो हैं लेकिन माननीय सदस्य का कहना सही है कि अभी तक कुल मिलाकर के 102 एम॰ओ॰यू॰ साइन कर दिया गया है, जिसमें 103 मिलियन टन चाहिए। कितना उसमें स्पिलिट होगा, वह एम॰ओ॰यू॰ हम नहीं जानते हैं। लेकिन एक लीज का जो नियम है, उस लीज के नियम के नियम में अभी जो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स हैं उनका पूरे का पूरा अधिकार होता है कि वे किसको माइंस दें और उसकी स्वीकृति के लिए माइंस डिपार्टमेंट में आता है। लेकिन हमने उसके लिए एक डान कमेटी बनाई है और इस कमेटी का रिकमंडेशन आ गया है और उसके साथ-साथ एक हाई पॉवर कमेटी, Hooda Committee बनाई गई है, जो एक पालिसी तय करेगी कि जो हमारे पास में अवेलेबल raw material है, ऑयरन ओर है उसका डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन कैसे किया जाए। किन-किन को प्रोयोरिटी में रखा जाये, पब्लिक अंडर टेकिंग्स हैं, प्राईवेट वाले हैं, कितने मिलियन टन लगायेंगे, उनको कितना दिया जायेगा और वह सारा राज्य सरकार से बातचीत करके कहीं होगा।

श्री दीपांकर मुखर्जी: तो तब तक जो बंगाल का प्रोजेक्ट है, वह आपके कंसिडरेशन में होगा। जो प्रोजेक्ट कंसिडरेशन में आने वाला था, जिसको रोक दिया गया, क्योंकि झारखंड सरकार ने रोक लगाई। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह: वह झारखंड में चला गया। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री उपसभापति: ठीक है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री दीपांकर मुखर्जी: प्राईवेट सैक्टर का प्रोपोजल था। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह: वह वापस झारखंड में जाकर बैठ गया है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री उपसभापति: अच्छा। ...(**व्यवधान**)... श्री मोती लाल वोरा। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री दीपांकर मुखर्जी: वह बतायेंगे, ये काहे को ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह: यह वही था जिसको आप बंगाल ले जा रहे थे। ...(**व्यवधान**)... आप दूसरा मंगवाइये। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री उपसभापति: आप बैठ जाइये। ...(व्यवधान)... श्री दिग्विजय सिंह जी, ...(व्यवधान)... आप बैठ जाइये। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री मोती लाल वोरा: उपसभापति महोदय, मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि उन्होंने कहा है कि ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: श्री दिग्विजय सिंह जी, ...(व्यवधान)... श्री दिग्विजय सिंहजी, ...(व्यवधान)... श्री दीपांकर जी, ...(व्यवधान)... आप दोनों क्यों ...(व्यवधान)... चेयर यहां बैठी है, आप चेयर को एड्रेस कीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री मोती लाल वोरा: उपसभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि भिलाई स्टील प्लान्ट के पास में आयरन-ओर की बहुत कमी हो गई है। ...(व्यवधान)... आने वाले दो-तीन वर्षों में ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: यह क्या हो रहा है? ...(व्यवधान)... आप बैठ जाइये। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री मोती लाल वोरा: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि आयरन-ओर का स्टॉक उनके पास में आने वाले 200 साल के लिए है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि जो भिलाई का इस्पात कारखाना है, उसके पास आयरन-ओर की कमी है, उसको आयरन-ओर उपलब्ध करवाने के लिए क्या आपने कोई व्यवस्था की है?

माननीय उपसभापति जी, दूसरी बात यह है कि बेलाडिला माइन्स का सबसे अच्छा आयरन-ओर है, जिसे हिन्दुस्तान से बाहर भेजा जाता है। क्या बेला-डिला में लगने वाले जो प्लांट हैं, आने वाले समय में प्राईवेट सैक्टर में दो प्लांट की स्थापना हो रही है। एक तरफ आप एक्सपोर्ट कर रहे हैं और फिर आप कहते हैं कि हमारे पास में जो भिलाई का इस्पात संयंत्र है, पब्लिक अंडर टेकिंग है, उसके पास में आयरन-ओर की कमी है, उस कमी को पूरा करने के विषय में आपने कौन-सी कार्यवाही की है?

श्री राम विलास पासवान: सर, उस संबंध में हम सतत बातचीत कर रहे हैं, लेकिन जैसा कि मैंने आपको बतलाया कि इसके लिए ही कमेटी बनाई गई है। हर प्लांट चाहता है, हर इंडस्ट्री वाला चाहता है कि हमको कोई चिरिया माइन्स से चाहिए, कोई गोवा माइन्स से चाहिए, कोई अमुक माइन्स से चाहिए, लेकिन यह राज्य सरकार का मामला है। हम इसमें ज्यादा इंटरफेयरेंस नहीं कर सकते हैं। हम इतना ही कर सकते हैं कि उनका जो रिकमंडेशन आता है, उसको माइन्स डिपार्टमेंट एप्रूवल नहीं दे। यह जो हमारी कमेटी बनाई गई है, उस कमेटी का मेन मकसद यह ही है कि इसका कैसे डिस्ट्रीब्युशन किया जाये। लेकिन इतना मैं माननीय सदस्य को बतलाना चाहता हूं कि आयरन-ओर की कमी नहीं है। जो हम एक्सपोर्ट कर रहे हैं, वह एक्सपोर्ट हम उस आयरन-ओर का

रहे हैं, जिनके बारे में मैंने कहा कि उनकी क्वालिटी ऐसी है जिसका हमारे यहां उपयोग नहीं होता है और दूसरे ऐसे हैं जिनके बारे में हम जानते हैं कि सौ साल बाद नई टेक्नालाजी आयेगी, दो सो साल तक जो हमारे पास रिजर्व है, उसको हमारे पास रखकर के बाकी की हमारे पास जो आयरन-ओर है, उसका एक्सपोर्ट करने में हमें कोई आपत्ति नहीं है और इस दृष्टिकोण से एक्सपोर्ट किया जा रहा है। जो एक्सपोर्ट किया जा रहा है वह घरेलू consumptionको काटकर नहीं किया जा रहा है। जो डोमेस्टिक नीड्स हैं, पहले हम उनको पूरा करेंगे और उसके बाद ही हमारा आयरन-ओर एक्सपोर्ट होगा। यदि हमें उसमें कटौती करनी पड़ेगी, तो अभी हमने कटौती की है और जितने हमारे ग्रुप थे, प्राईवेट ग्रुप वाले भी थे, उनको बुलाकर के, पब्लिक अंडर टेकिंग को बुलाकर के, हमने यह निर्णय लिया है कि पिछली बार 6.3 मिलियन टन का एक्सपोर्ट था, उसको काटकर हम 1.7 मिलियन टन पर एक्सपोर्ट को ले आये हैं।

श्री उपसभापति: नेक्स्ट क्वेश्चन 348 श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया।

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि: सर, मुझे क्वेश्चन पूछना है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: बहुत से क्वेश्चन्स हैं, दूसरे सदस्यों के भी क्वेश्चन्स हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... क्वेश्चन नम्बर 348 ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि: सर, मुझे क्वेश्चन पूछना है। सर, मैंने आपको नाम लिखवाया है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: ऐसी बात नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)...

Increasing coverage of BPL families under TPDS

*348. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:†
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of BPL families identified/covered under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS); and

(b) the reasons for not covering the entire BPL families identified under the TPDS?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Santosh Bagrodia

Statement

(a) The total number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families identified and issued ration cards by the State Governments/UTs under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) are 813.68 lakhs including 197.43 lakh antyodaya families.

(b) the estimated number of BPL families under the TPDS is 652.03 lakh which is based on the state-wise poverty estimates of the Planning Commission for 1993-94 and the population projection of the Registrar General of India as on 1.3.2000. Though some of the States/UTs have identified more BPL families, the allocation of foodgrains by the Central Government is restricted to the estimated number of families. This criteria is followed uniformly for all the States/UTs.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, the criterion for identification of the poor is very complicated because, it is very difficult to know what the income of the family is.

श्री उपसभापति: कल विस्तार से इस पर डिसकसन हुआ है। आप जरा ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया: सर, सवाल यही है, तो मैं क्या करूं। ...(व्यवधान)...

Sir, you did not allow me to put a supplementary on the earlier question concerning steel. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: इसीलिए एक सवाल पूछ लीजिए। The reply was given for one hour.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, I fully agree. ...(*Interruptions*)... I fully agree that it was discussed in detail yesterday, but that is the question allotted to me. What do I do?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; you ask one question and, then, we will proceed to the next one.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Had you allowed me to seek one supplementary on the earlier question, I would not have asked this question.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please ask a brief question.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Anyway, my only question which still remains to be asnwered is: Are you changing the criteria? And also, ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री उपसभापति: आप थोड़ा सा बोलिए ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Are you going to supply the delivery between two weeks of every months? Let him reply again. What else to do?

डा॰ अखिलेश प्रसाद सिंह: माननीय सदस्य ने जो प्रश्न पूछा है, मैं बताना चाहता हूं कि नम्बर ऑफ फैमिलीज़ जो बीपीएल के नीचे हैं, उनकी संख्या का निर्धारण प्लानिंग कमीशन का एक्सपर्ट ग्रुप, जो प्रोफेसर लक्कड़वाला जी की अध्यक्षता में गठित हुआ था, उसके द्वारा निर्धारित methodology से निर्धारित किया जाता है और पॉवर्टी एस्टीमेट, 1993-94 में प्लानिंग कमीशन का जो प्रोजैक्शन था, उसके अनुसार जो रजिस्ट्रार जनरल ने बीपीएल फैमिलीज़ की संख्या निर्धारित की थी, वह 596.23 लाख थी -1997 में, जो बाद में 1.12.2000 को 652.03 लाख फैमिलीज़ हो गयी।। उसके आधार पर भारत सरकार गरीबी रेखा से नीचे के परिवारों को अन्न मुहैया कराती रही है। हालांकि दूसरे प्रदेशों से इस तरह की शिकायत मिलती है कि जो प्लानिंग कमीशन की निर्धारित संख्या है, कई राज्यों में उससे भी ज्यादा क़ार्ड्स बंटे हैं लेकिन भारत सरकार जो 35 किलो के हिसाब से चावल या गेहूं मुहैया कराती है, उसी के हिसाब से चावल और गेहूं भिन्न भिन्न राज्यों को मुहैया कराया जाता है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think, this question. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Don't take away my right to put questions, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: One minute. Please sit down. I will explain it. इसके ऊपर बहुत विस्तार से डिसकशन हुई है। All aspects have been covered. Because some Members were not there, again, there is a repetition in the House. If there is a general consensus in the House, we can go to the next question.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: What is the general consensus? You don't need to have any consensus, Sir. Just tell me, "Don't ask the question." You don't need to have the consensus of the House on this. Nobody is bothered about me, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Q.NO. 349. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, can I say something? You have taken the consensus of the House; I honour that. But you can simply tell me, "Don't ask the question." You don't need to have the consensus. Nobody is bothered about me.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I want to be more democratic! ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, you can take away my Personal right without going to the House!

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Q.No. 349. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह: सर, मंत्री जी जवाब देने के लिए खड़े हो गए हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI: Sir, there is a contradiction between the answer given by the Union Minister for Agriculture yesterday and the answer given for question 348 here.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can write to them. You will get the correct answer.

Medicines available without prescriptions

*349. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fast action potent sedative drugs like Ketamine and Rohypnol are available in the market without prescriptions and there are reports of their rampant misuse; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to restrict the sale of such drugs in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) :(a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Ketamine Hydrocholoride is a Schedule H drug under the drugs & Cosmetics Rules, 1945, and therefore can be sold only against the prescription of Registered Medical Practitioners. Ketamine is a drug used for the induction of dissociative anesthesia.

In view of the alleged misuse of this drug reported by the press and a reference received in this regard from Narcotic Control Bureau, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare requested State Drugs Controllers to report whether this drug is being misused in their respective States. Except Goa, no other State reported the misuse of Ketamine in their respective States. After due consideration, this Ministry has intimated its consent to the Narcotic Control Bureau regarding their proposal of bringing the Ketamine under the control of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances

(NDPS) Act so as to restrict its alleged misuse.

As far as the drug Rohypnol is concerned, no specific information is available regarding misuse of this drug.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, I thank the Minister for the reply which has been given by her. There are two drugs, Ketamine Hydrochloride and Rohypnol. There has been rampant misuse reported in the major cities of the country because these drugs are used for the induction of dissociative anaesthesia. These drugs have been sued in crimes. We do appreciate that the Minsitry has taken note of their misuse, and has given its consent now to put Ketamine Hydrochloride under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances act. But Rohypnol is still available in the market. Would the Minister consider directing the Drug Controller of India to ensure a strict vigilant check so that the account of both the quantity of drug which is produced under license and what is sold in the market is kept and if there is any misuse reported or if there is its sale without prescription, strict action should be taken?

SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI: Sir, this drug, Rohypnol, is not marketed in our country. Health is a State subject and we are giving instructions to the State Drug Controllers to do vigilance and take necessary action.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Negative growth in crucial crops

*341. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI ANAND SHARMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reports from across the country suggest a negative growth in output of crucial crops such as paddy, coarse grains, pulses and oilseeds;

(b) whether Government have received full report of erratic rainfall in the country and its effect on these coarse grains;

(c) whether the rains in September have also improved the position;

(d) if so, whether any final estimate of negative growth in Kharif crop has been made; and

(e) if so, the action plan being considered by Government?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) As per the First Advance Estimates of Production for the year 2005-06, the growth rates in respect of kharif production of paddy, coarse grains, pulses and oilseeds over last year are shown in the table below:

Crop	Production (Million Tones)		Growth Rate (%)
	2004-05	2005-06	(2005-06 over 2004-05)
Paddy	107.51	110.75	3.01
Coarse Grains	26.70	26.44	-0.97
Pulses	4.95	4.98	0.61
Oilseeds	14.94	14.56	-2.54

For Rabi 2005-06 season, the sowing is in progress and it is too early at this juncture to precisely assess the likely production.

(b) The India Meteorological Department has brought out the End of Season report for south-west monsoon 2005 which shows that for the country as a whole the seasonal rainfall from 1st June to 30th September 2005 was 99% of its Long Period Average (LPA). However, during the season, rainfall was not well distributed in time. Rainfall over the country was below normal (12% below LPA) in June with some districts having a deficit ranging between 60-85%. Monsoon was active in July with excess rainfall (14% above LPA). Again the monsoon was subdued in August with a large deficiency of 28% of LPA. Thus, there may be some possibility of reduction in the production of coarse grain and oilseeds.

(c) In September (rainfall +17% above LPA), monsoon became active again helping to revive and improve crop production.

(d) The First Advance Estimates of production of kharif foodgrains and kharif commercial crops taking into account area coverage have already been made in September, 2005, but these estimates will be further revised in the month of January, 2006, factoring in weather conditions, input use, productivity and other relevant parameters.

(e) The programmes aimed at boosting production and productivity of foodgrains and oilseeds include:

(i) The Integrated Cereals Development Programmes in Rice Based, Wheat Based and Coarse Cereals Based Cropping Systems Areas, under Macro Management with assistance being provided for various inputs and training of farmers/extension workers as well as supply of critical inputs like seeds, sprayers and water saving devices like sprinklers and drip system.

(ii) Integrated scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) is being implemented, through which breeder seed, foundation seed and certified seed, crash programme for quality seed production, distribution of certified seed and Minikits, infrastructure development, Integrated Pest Managements is being provided. It also includes frontline demonstrations on improved production technologies in oilseeds and pulses, conducted through Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

Damage caused by wild elephants in Assam

*342. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the deatails of action taken to prevent the regular movement of wild elephants within the habitation of tea gardens and villages under Amaribari Forest Range of DFO Tezpur in Sonitpur district, Assam for it causes damage to paddy, land, houses, property as well as people;

(b) whether any compensation has been paid to the affected families and the agencies entrusted with task;

(c) the total forest cover maintained during the last five years as well as the details of forest marked as elephant conservation in Assam; and

(d) the steps taken to push back these wild elephants to the conservation area?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) As reported by the Government of Assam, the actions taken to prevent the movement of wild elephants within the habitation of tea gardens and

villages under Amaribari Forest Range, Sonitpur West Division, Assam are at Statement (*See* below).

(b) Yes Sir, the *ex-gratia* has been paid for the loss of human lives. The amount of compensation paid during the last three years are as below:

Year	No.of persons killed	Total amount of ex-gratia paid (Rs.)
2002-2003	5	70,000.00
2003-2004	19	3,80,000.00
2004-2005	9	3,60,000.00

(c) As per the State of Forest Report published biennially by Forest Survey of India, the forest cover of Assam during the last five years is as below:

Year	Forest cover (sq.km)
1999	23,688
2001	27,714
2003	27,826

The details of Elephant Reserves in Assam are:

Name of elephant reserve	Area (sq.km)
Chirang-Ripu	2600
Sonitpur	1420
Kaziranga-Karbi Anglong	3270
Dhansiri-Lungding	2740
Dehing Patkai	937

(d) The following steps have been taken to keep away the wild elephants from habitations:

i) Formation of anti-depredation squads

ii) Use of Kunkies (Trained Elephants)

iii) Installation of power fencing

iv) Habitat improvement of elephant reserves

v) Infrastructure development

Statement

Action taken to prevent movement of wild elephants within the tea gardens and villages under Amaribari Forest Range in Sonitpur district, Assam

(i) The Range level and Beat level committees have been formed. The wild elephants are driven out with help of local committees and hired kunkies (Trained Elephants).

(ii) Anti elephant depredation squads have been formed in the tea gardens and revenue villages.

(iii) Temporary camps comprising of forest prescnnel, local villagers have been set up to carry out anti elephant depredation drive.

(iv) Public awareness meetings are organized to mitigate the man elephant conflict.

(v) Wireless facilities have been installed at Divisional Headquaters, all Ranges and Beats for effective communication.

(vi) Plantation of folder species have been taken up for habitat improvement under Central Sponsored Scheme "Project Elephant".

Health care for all

*344. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target for taking health care to all parts of the country has been fixed;

(b) if so , the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government are aware that CII's health committee and Escorts Heart Institute have conducted a study and found that Rs 1 lakh crores will be required for 'Health-care for All' project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The National Health Policy, 2002, laid down the main objective as achieving an acceptable standard of good health amongst the general population of the country. This was targeted to be achieved by establishing new infrastructure in deficient area and by upgrading infrastructure in the existing institutions. Taking into account the gap in health care facilities, National Health Policy, 2002, envisages an increase in health sector expenditure to 6% GDP with 2% of GDP being contributed as public health investment by the year 2010.

The National Common Minimum Programme of the Government has also focused attention on increasing public investment in health. It is proposed to increase the expenditure in the health sector to the level of 2-3% of the GDP by increased contributions from the Central and State Governments.

Towards this end, the Government has launched a National Rural Health Mission, which seeks to provide effective health care to rural population throughout the country with special focus on 18 States with poor health indicators and weak health infrastructure. The main objective is to provide accessible, affordable, accountable, effective and reliable health care, especially to poor and vulnerable sections of population with the ultimate objective to achieve Population Stabilization Programme in the high fertility states of the country. Under the strategy of NRHM, the gap in the existing scenario of rural health care is to be addressed through 2.5 lakh Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) to assist the Anganwadi Worker and ANM at village level to make the increased health services accessible to the rural people of the country. It is also proposed to upgrade CHCs to the level of India Public Health Standards (IPHS). NRHM has been launched for a period of 7 years (2005-2012) i.e. for two years of Tenth Plan and full Eleventh Plan.

(c) The CII National Committee on Health Care commissioned Mckinsey and Company for a Study in the year 2002, to define an achievable way forward for health care. The study has concluded that changing demographics, diseases profile and rising treatment costs will cause spending on health care to more than double by 2012. To meet this increase in the demand for health care, improvement in infrastructure will require investments in hospitals, medical colleges, nursing schools and hospital management schools of Rs. 100,000 crores to Rs. 140,000 crores over the next 10 years.

Accidents due to failure of safety norms and human errors

*350. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that causes of accidents of trains are failure of giving due attention to rail safety and non-implementation fo safety norms.

(b) the details of train accidents in 2004 and 2005 due to failure of safety norms and by human error;

(c) what penalty is imposed to those employees who violate safety norms;

(d) how many persons have been booked for non-implementation of safety norms during 2004 and 2005; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to ensure strict compliance of safety norms?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) No, Sir. Safety is the prime concern of Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken to prevent rail accidents.

(b) The cause wise details of consequential train accidents including those on account of human failure for the year 2003-04 and 2004-05 have been as under:—

Causes	2003-04	2004-05*
Failure of Railway Staff	161	119
Failure of other than Railway Staff	107	78
Failure of equipment	18	14
Sabotage	18	4
Combination of factors	2	1
Incidental	17	16
Could not be established conclusively	2	2
Under Investigation	—	—
GRAND TOTAL	325	234

*Figures are provisional.

(c) Depending upon the gravity and seriousness of the lapse, appropriate penalty under the Discipline and Appeal Rules is imposed against defaulting officials.

(d) During the period 2003-04 to 2004-05, 853 Railway official have been taken up under Disciplinary and Appeal Rules and penalties, including dismissal and removal from service, have been imposed, for various lapses leading to consequential train accidents.

(e) To ensure compliance of safety norms, periodical safety drives are launched to focus on specific areas of concern. Inspections are conducted at various levels to monitor safety. Those found violating the safety norms are taken up under the Disciplinary and Appeal Rules. Conselling and refresher courses are held periodically to update skills and raise safety consciousness amongst staff.

Stalls at platforms in Konkan

†*351. SHRI VASANT CHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways on the demand of the residents of Konkan, had assured them at the time of introducing Konkan Railway in Maharashtra to provide stalls at the railway platforms;

(b) if so, the number of unemployed persons to whom stalls have been provided at railway platforms so far and the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government would consider to provide employment to such unemployed persons as per their demand?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Strike by CGHS staff

†*352. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether about thirty thousand health employees of various institutions of the Central Government went on strike on 18 November, 2005, which had widely affected the health services;

(b) if so, the reasons for their strike;

(c) whether employees have requested Government to accept their demands before going on strike; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to accept their demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The Central Health Employees Federation (CHEF) had given a notice in their letter dated 19.10.2005 for one day strike on 18.11.2005 alleging non-fulfilment of their demands. Some Group 'C' and 'D' employees of Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. R.M.L. Hospital and CGHS participated in the strike on 18.11.2005. However, there was no disruption of work in these hospitals as contingency plan was prepared for smooth functioning of concerned institutions. The employees of Lady Hardinge Medical College did not participate in the strike.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) The demands of Central Health Employees Federation (CHEF) were discussed in a meeting taken by Secretary (H&FW) on 1.8.2005. Further, these were discussed in a meeting taken by Minister of Health and Family Welfare on the same day. The progress of action taken on the Charter of Demands was discussed in a meeting taken on 11.11.2005 by Director General of Health Services (DGHS). The status of each of the items were duly intimated to the Federation.

Rotary Cancer Hospital at AIIMS

*353. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Indian Rotary Cancer Hospital at AIIMS has been delayed and is yet to become fully operational and if so, the reason therefor;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the equipment and external services had not been planned along with the construction of the building thus contributing to the delay and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the cancer unit is likely to become fully operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Initially, the proposal for Institute Rotary Cancer Hospital (IRCH) at AIIMS was approved in 1993, at a cost of Rs. 20.00 crores. Due to increased demand for the services for Cancer patients, there was change in the scope of the project. The Revised Cost Estimate of Rs. 98.41 crores is pending approval of the Government.

The first four floors of the IRCH at AIIMS are, however, functional. The Civil and Electrical Works for the remaining three floors have also been completed. The remaining three floors of the Centre will become fully operational as soon as the approval is received for the Revised Cost Estimate of Rs. 98.41 crores.

Design and manufacture of agricultural equipments

*354. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps during the last two years to design and manufacture agricultural equipments which are suitable for Indian conditions and for enabling the farmers to carry out farm operations economically and efficiently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the success achieved therefrom;

(c) whether the country is still lagging behind many countries in farm mechanisation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal and 23 Centres of All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Farm Implements and Machinery (FIM) have designed and developed Agricultural Implements and Machinery suitable for small, medium and large farms. A list of farm equipment developed during last two years is given in Statement (*See* below). Use of these equipments result in saving in time, labour, cost of operation and reduction in drudgery.

Feasibility Testing of Farm Equipment developed have also been carried out at Institute/University farms as well as farmers fieled to evaluate and refine the equipments developed.

To popularize the farm equipment developed, front line demonstrations have been carried out by centres of AICRP on FIM and Krishi Vigyan Kendras(KVKs).

Efforts have also been made to make design drawings of some of the agricultural machines using Computer Aided Design (CAD). These drawings can be used by the manufacturer for making the agricultural machines. This would lead to quality manufacturing of machine through research-industry linkage.

Trainings on farm implements have been conducted to familiarize the farmers on use, care and maintenance of different farm equipments. To popularize the farm implements developed the ICAR participated in different exhibitions, melas and demonstration programme.

(c) and (d) As compared to neighbouring Asian countries, India is not lagging behind in farm mechanization and is promoting selective mechanisation. About 250 manual, animal and power operated equipment for land preparation, sowing, interculture, spraying, harvesting and threshing have been developed to cater to small, medium and large farms. The mechanization efforts in the country have been made selectively for crops and their operations keeping in view the prevailing agro-socio-economic aspects. The mechanization in India is through an optimal blend of prevalent power sources i.e., manual, draft animals and mechanical.

India is one of the largest producer of tractors in the world producing about 2.5 lakh tractors annually in the range of 20-75 hp. As of now there are about 3 million tractors in India.

India is also producing about 2000 power tillers, 4 lakhs seed drills, 7 lakhs pumps and 4 lakhs threshers per annum. There are about 7000 small scale manufactures of agricultural implements and about 1 million village artisans.

There is a direct relationship between the farm power availability and productivity. The average farm power availability on Indian farms is 1.36 k W/ha with Punjab having the highest, *i.e.* 4.36 kW/ha.

Efforts have also been made to compile a list of agricultural implements manufacturers. CIAE, Bhopal has brought out a compendium of agricultural machinery manufacturers which have been out on website of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DoAC), Ministry of Agriculture.

To promote mechanization, a good number of improved farm implements such as rotavator, pulverizing roller, zero till drill, strip till drill, till planter, sugarcane cutter planter, pneumatic planter, pre-germinated paddy seeder, mat type paddy transplanter, vegetable transplanter, power weeder, aero blast sprayer, self propelled reaper, straw combine, straw bailer, rice straw shopper cum spreader, fertilizer spreader, banana clump remover, self propelled forage harvester, rotary power weeder, power tiller mounted groundnut digger, power operated dehusker cum sheller etc. have been

developed and are being demonstrated and popularized to promote mechanization. About 2 million hectare of wheat has been sown using zero till drill which results in saving of about Rs. 2000-2500/ha. Use of furrow irrigated raise bed planter results in savings of about 30-40% water.

The efforts being made on mechanization of agriculture is need based and farm equipment are developed/adapted only for the crops and their operations where mechanization intervention is necessary to carry out the operations timely with reduced drudgery and higher return to the farmers. Mechanization studies are conducted to identify the gaps and based on the mechanization gaps, equipment are identified for development/adaptation.

Statement

List of Farm Equipment Development Adopted during last Two Years

Sl. No.	Equipment Designed/Developed	Power Source	Achievement/Present Status
1	2	3	4
1.	Self propelled forage harvester	5hp diesel engine	Under commercialization
2.	Self propelled boom sprayer	5 hp diesel engine	Commercialized
3.	Power operated maize dehusker cum sheller	5hp electric motor/ 25 hp tractor	Commercialized
4.	Power tiller mounted orchard	10-12 hp power tiller	Multi-location trials
5.	High capacity pigeon pea thresher	15 hp electric motor/ 35 hp tractor	Under feasibility testing
6.	Power tiller mounted groundnut digger	Power tiller 10-12 hp	Multi-location trials
7.	Tractor mounted multipurpose equipment for sugarcane	35 hp tractor	Multi-loction trials
8.	Tractor mounted vegetable transplanter	35 hp tractor	Feasibility testing
9.	Tractor mounted inclined plate planter with raised bed former	35 hp tractor	Multi-location trials
10.	Rotary power weeder	3 hp engine	Centres demonstrated equipment in large area for different crops
11.	Self propelled rice transplanter	5 hp diesel engine	Multi-locational trials

1	2	3	4
12.	Tractor mounted Zero till seed drill	35 hp tractor	FLD commercialization
13.	Self propelled vertical conveyor reaper	5hp diesel engine	Commercialized
14.	Flail type fodder harvester cum chopper	35 hp tractor	Under commercialization
15.	Rice straw chopper cum spreader	45 hp tractor	Under commercialization
16.	Light weight power tiller	5 hp diesel engine	Multi-location trials Ready for commercialization
17.	Self propelled 10-row rice seeder	5 hp diesel engine	Multi-location trials
18.	Tractor mounted 3-row rotary weeder	35 hp tractor	Multi-location trials
19.	Tractor mounted banana clump remover	35 hp tractor	Multi-location trials
20.	Power tiller mounted earthing cum fertilizer applicator	Power tiller 10-12 hp	Under design refinement

Prototypes Manufactured during last two years
(Manually operated: 1556; Animal drawn: 55, Power operated: 156; Total: 1767)

Frequency of Bhubaneswar-Yeswantpur-Bhubaneswar Express

*355. SHRI B.J.P. PANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bhubaneswar Citizens' Forum has requested the railway authorities to increase the frequency of the Bhubaneswar-Yeswantpur-Bhubaneswar Express from once to twice a week, due to heavy rush of traffic; and

(b) if so, the status of the proposal and the time-frame within which it would be agreed to?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Increase in the frequency of 2845/2846 (Old No. 8415/8416) Bhubaneswar-Yeswantpur Express has been examined but not found feasible at present due to operational constraints.

Restructuring of FACT

*356. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ther is any proposal pending for restructuring of the FACT;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount required for the restructuring;

(d) whether Government have released the required amount for the purpose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the restructuring process?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS & STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The following proposals for financial restructuring have been received from FACT:

(i) Waiver of outstanding interest of Rs. 34.80 crore on GOI loans for the year 2003-2004, along with interest accrued but not due of Rs. 193 crore, totalling Rs. 36.73 crore and any penal interest thereon.

(ii) Waiver of outstanding interest of Rs. 48.70 crore on GOI loans for the year 2004-05, along with interest accrued but not due of Rs. 0.34 crore totalling Rs. 49.04 crore and any penal interest thereon.

(iii) Conversion of 50% of the outstanding GOI loan of Rs. 584.60 crore as on 31-03-2005 (i.e. Rs. 292.30 crore) into equity capital.

(iv) Write off the non-plan loan of Rs. 60 crore given for Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

(v) Write off of the balance outstanding GOI loan of Rs. 232.30 crore as on 31-03-2005 (Rs. 584.60—292.30—60.00 crore).

(vi) The relief's requested above to be made effective as on 31st march 2005.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The proposals have been considered by the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises on 9.12.2005 and further action will depend on the recommendations of the Board.

Registered Nursing Institutions in the Country

*357. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of registered nursing institutions in the country, both Government and private, approved by the Indian Nursing Council and the number of those institutions in Kerala;

(b) whether the council had prescribed and maintained any guidelines for the approval of these institutions and whether any instances have been reported from any State relating to the irregular approval of those institutions which have got no basic amenities; and

(c) whether any such instances have been brought to the notice of Government from Kerala and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) A list of registered nursing institutions in the country and in Kerala, both Government & private, as approved by the Indian Nursing Council as on 31st March, 2005, is in Statement (*See* below)

Indian Nursing Council has prescribed guidelines for the approval of Nursing Educational Institutions. Approval is given only to those institutions, which fulfil the physical, clinical & teaching facilities as prescribed by Indian Nursing Council. Periodical inspection is conducted to ensure that the minimum standards prescribed by indian Nursing Council are being followed.

Indian Nursing Council had recognized the Institute of Nursing Education, School of Medical Education, Gandhi Nagar, Kottayam (Kerala) for conducting B.Sc. (N) programme. However, upon receipt of a complaint against the said institution, comments from the Kerala Nurses & Midwives Council were sought. Kerala Nursing Council inspected the said nursing institution and withdrew recognition accorded to the Institution. Following this, Indian Nursing Council has issued a notice on 1.12.05 seeking explanation within a period of four weeks for considering withdrawal of recognition from the Institute.

Statement

Distribution of Nursing Educational Institutions/total no. of Nurses registered in different Nursing Courses upto 31st March, 2005

S. No.	States and Union Territory	Total No. of Nursing Educational Institution in India recognised by INC								
		ANM			GNM			B.Sc (N)		
		Govt	Pvt	Total	Govt	Pvt	Total	Govt	Pvt	Total
1	Andaman & Nicobar	1	0	1	1	0	1		0	
2	Andhra Pradesh	4	26	30	8	112	120	4	64	68
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1	0	1		2	2		0	
4	Assam	4	3	7	2	9	11	1	1	2
5	Bihar	21	5	26	8	5	13		0	
6	Chandigarh		0			0		1	0	1
7	Delhi	1	0	1	6	11	17	3	2	5
8	Goa	1	0	1	1	0	1		0	
9	Gujarat		2	2	15	7	22	1	2	3
10	Haryana	4	6	10	3	16	19	1	1	2
11	Himachal Pradesh	1	1	2	2	4	6		0	
12	Karnataka	4	0	4	9	266	275	1	148	149
13	Kerala	4	11	15	10	81	91	3	9	12
14	M.I.B.	0	4	4		4	4		0	
15	Madhya Pradesh	9	0	9	6	18	24	1	22	23
16	Maharashtra	12	4	16	24	35	59	1	10	11
17	Manipur		3	3		4	4		0	
18	Meghalaya		0		2	3	5		0	
19	Mizoram	1	1	2	2	2	4	1	0	1
20	Nagaland	1	0	1	1	0	1		0	
21	Orissa	15	1	16	3	7	10	1	3	4
22	Pondicherry		1	1		1	1		5	5
23	Punjab	5	28	33	4	76	80	1	13	14
24	Rajasthan	8	0	8	5	52	57		3	3
25	S.I.B.		3	3		18	18		2	2
26	Sikkim		0		1	0	1		1	1
27	Tamil Nadu	2	5	7	9	57	66	1	37	38
28	Tripura	1	0	1	2	1	3		0	
29	Uttar Pradesh	30	0	30	1	34	35		3	3
30	West Bengal	10	10	20	19	10	29	1	1	2
	GRAND TOTAL	140	114	254	144	835	979	22	327	349

1-Bihar=Bihar=Jharkhand
2-Madhya Pradesh=Madhya Pradesh+Chattisgarh
3-Punjab=Punjab+J&K
4-Uttar Pradesh=Uttarpradesh+Uttaranchal

ANM: Auxiliary Nurse Midwives
GNM:General Nursing and Midwives
B.Sc.(N): Bachelor in Nursing.

Decline in fish production

*358. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a great fall in fish production especially wild stock from sea and rivers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the corrective measures being undertaken to stimulate the fish production?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Though the overall fish production from the country has been on the increase, marine fish production has been more or less steady at 28-29 lakh tonnes during 2000-2004 and has shown a slight fall to 27.8 lakh tonnes during 2004-05. There has been some fluctuation in riverine capture fisheries in the recent years.

(b) The decline in marine fish production during 2004-05 is mainly attributed to the major havoc caused by tsunami during December, 2004. Topographic changes due to construction of dams, bridges and barrages and increased land based pollution besides intensive fishing are the major reasons for decline in riverine capture fisheries.

(c) In the marine sector resource conservation through closed seasons, mesh regulations and such other management measures are being implemented for replenishing the fish stock. Apart from this, production from the deep sea is being augmented by encouraging investment in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). Measures to decongest the coastal waters by encouraging fishing beyond territorial waters by enabling the existing class of mechanised boats and encouraging introduction of the intermediate craft are being implemented. River ranching, abating pollution and fishing regulations are being practiced to enhance the health of riverine fish stock. Thrust is being given to increase fish production through aquaculture besides assisting the sector through various Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes to improve fish production.